

# The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1913.

## PRECAUTIONS AGAINST MEASLES.

The appearance of 43 cases of measles in the first two weeks of January, although resulting in but one death, is ample reason for the vigilance and campaign of education being waged by the school and health authorities. Measles is too often regarded as one of the necessary ills of childhood, and so treated lightly. It is seldom fatal to children over two years of age. Among younger victims the mortality is heavy. But aside from the immediate danger of death, the disease is peculiarly hard on children in its after effects. It is reasonably certain that of the 43 cases recorded some will pay heavy penalties in eye and throat troubles and in undetermined vitality. A subordinate, but not unimportant, consideration is the money cost of such an epidemic. Each sick child is a drain on the family purse, and families least able to bear added burdens are those most liable to be afflicted.

For these reasons, and for the broad human desire to mitigate infant suffering, both teachers and parents must co-operate to stamp out the contagion. At no time is the social nature of disease better illustrated than in such a visitation. Schools and Sunday schools are the chief means of spreading the disease. Each case is a breeding center for others. Children must be protected against contracting measles, and, on the other hand, when one has contracted it, the individual must be prevented from spreading the contagion. Too frequently mothers and fathers are careless of the obvious duty they owe the children of others.

Elsewhere in The Times-Dispatch will be found suggestions for handling the epidemic. Two main points may be emphasized. "The disease is always contracted by direct contact with the person, never through a third person or by touching the clothing. By impressing this on children, parents might help to stay the epidemic. Second, a child may spread the disease before he himself actually shows plain symptoms of having it. This calls for the prompt isolation of suspicious cases. We bespeak for the schools and the Board of Health the close study of the literature sent out, and the understanding and self-sacrificing co-operation of parents and teachers in protecting the health of young children.

## "NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS."

That "no news is good news" is an old aphorism now exemplified in the dispatches from London during the last few days regarding the Balkan war issue. Speculation and alarms continue, but when we come down to basic facts nothing new of importance has occurred; no real new dangers have developed.

The most important and encouraging feature of the situation is that the deadlock between the peace delegates of the allies and of Turkey is still on; and the longer that remains the case, within the limits of time for the ambassadors of the powers to exert pressure, the more assured the outlook. Threats by the concert of resumption of hostilities at a given date, unless Turkey yields to all of their demands, and Turkish arrogant and swashbuckler assertions that she will die in the last ditch before giving another inch, none the less, both sides stand in the greatest dread of again closing in a death grapple.

Turkey has been beaten by her knees and is bankrupt. She has defaulted in the interest on her obligations, and is impotent to borrow any more money, certainly for replenishing her war chest. The allies, especially Bulgaria, have suffered terrible drains, financially and otherwise, from which it will take them years to recuperate. Both welcome the breathing spell, and when it comes to the test, the crucial moment, each will take serious pause ere committing any overt act or promulgating any ultimatum that will prevent its prolongation until the powers have formulated a basis of agreement which both will be too glad to accept. Past barking and filling have proven that.

In a word both the allies and the Turks are in the hands of the powers, and have virtually shifted upon the shoulders of these the responsibility of making a way for peace or permitting a final appeal to arms—the allies because they are satisfied that in the end they will get approximately, in a general way, all they contend for, Turkey because that policy affords the only opening for saving her face and being confined in possession of even a fraction of her European domain. The allies know that once the conflict is resumed they could not stop short of Bulgarian possession of Constantinople, which Bulgaria does not desire at present, at least, since such possession would be bad policy as bearing on her future relations with the powers. Turkey is aware that resumption would mean the absolute end of the last vestige of Ottoman rule, even nominal, on this side of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles.

The responsibility of the powers, however, carries with it more than effecting terms of peace and deciding upon the broad lines of partition of Turkey between the concert and the Turks. It involves the question of

territorial assignment among the allies themselves, concerning which serious friction has already been foreshadowed. There are various racial and religious differences to be adjusted and traditions to be satisfied.

Thus there is the main wheel, which is another potent reason for the allies particularly being willing for the powers to have the final word. Obviously that word cannot be given in haste, and it cannot be expected that it be given dictatorially save as a last resort. Therefore we have it that in all the circumstances the lack of news and the situation are most reassuring.

## ENLARGE THE FEDERAL SUPREME COURT.

Senator Gore, of Oklahoma, has introduced a bill to increase the membership of the United States Supreme Court from nine to eleven justices. His proposal will attract the serious attention of the country because this tribunal is no larger than it was three-quarters of a century ago, when the population of the nation was only 15,000,000 and when there were few corporations and few complex questions to congest the court's docket.

When the court was first organized in 1789 it consisted of a Chief Justice and five associate justices. In 1807 another associate justice was added, and three decades later the court was enlarged by the creation of two more justices, raising the membership to nine. A tenth was added in 1863, but two years later the number was restored to nine. In 1867, because of the bitter hostility of Congress toward President Johnson, the number was fixed at seven associate justices so as to prevent the President from making appointments to the Supreme Bench. After his administration had ended, the number of associate justices was fixed at eight, and there has been no change since.

The court holds a single term annually, beginning in October, but, in addition to this, each Supreme Court justice is required to attend at least one term of one of the United States Circuit Courts every two years. This latter duty is one of the considerations which renders geography important in filling the bench of the highest court. There are nine Circuit Court districts, one for each judge, and if the Gore bill shall become law it would seem to require the creation of two more circuits.

The controlling argument for the addition of two new justices to the Federal Supreme Court is the congestion of its docket. For a long period the court has been anywhere from two to four years behind its calendar, and it has, therefore, been impossible for it to grant that adjudication which is every litigant's right. Causes are very slow to reach a hearing on account of the condition of the docket. The Chief Justice and his associates stagger under the burden which they carry, the work of formulating decisions demands practically all of their time throughout the year; they cannot have that leisure and recreation to which, as hard-working public servants, they are so eminently entitled. The tremendousness of their tasks forces them to isolate themselves from the world, and this should not be, common contact with the people is a good thing for judges. The black-gowned men who largely determine economic policies affecting the progress of almost one hundred million people, ought not to have to confine themselves to cloistered libraries and consultation chambers. Senator Gore's proposal is sound and just; its adoption would promote respect for law in this country.

## SEVENTY-EIGHT YEARS MARRIED.

The thought of a married companionship of seventy-eight years inevitably rouses in the speculative mind a vision of the sweetness of wisdom so prolonged a sharing of earthly joys and sorrows must have brought to the man and wife. This, indeed, is the keynote of the celebration held in Connecticut by a couple of ninety-nine and ninety-eight years, who were married in 1835. It is even more impressive than the vast procession of change the pair have seen sweep through the world since they plighted troth. They were young when railroads first came, and now they are still together under the whir of the aeroplane. Yet this is the merely external panorama of their union. Its true fruit is in the simple human understanding of life and its problems that three-quarters of a century has brought.

Some rules for the guidance of married people, framed by this almost centennial husband, show how compact has become his philosophy of the closest of all human relations. He writes: "Don't bark; don't speak disrespectfully of each other's families; don't live up to your income, don't be afraid to talk more than what you think is your share of the work."

Not Solomon himself touched more poignantly on the elemental issue of marital happiness than this stout-hearted old man. Domestic peace must be won by self-sacrifice and self-control is the gist of his preachment. Be economical and industrious. These are platitudes of everyday morals, yet they gain a noble newness and import when uttered after such an expanse of experience. They show how tragically barren are the rocks on which so many domestic crafts are wrecked. They prove how equitably the so-called rocks of life on both shoulders. To the cynic the monotony of seventy-eight years of unbroken comradeship is almost appalling. To the philosopher words like the above make clear how the mill of life grinds out its finest grit.

## BANKING REFORM AND THE BALTIMORE PLATFORM.

The declarations of the Baltimore platform seem to be the principal obstacle at the present time in the way of the enactment of proper measures of banking reform. The need for immediate legislation is apparent and is universally recognized. Furthermore, the most intelligent and patriotic thought of the country almost without exception, expresses itself as favorable toward proper safeguards to a greater degree of centralization in our national banking system. It is at this point,

however, that the Democratic platform seemingly obstructs the path by its direct and unequivocal opposition to a central bank or the so-called Aldrich plan of banking reform. As a consequence, the Democratic members of the Banking and Currency Committee, who are charged with the responsibility of preparing legislation, apparently believe that they would be acting in bad faith should they recommend the establishment of some form of a central reserve or national bank association.

This condition of affairs is deplorable for several reasons. Banking reform is not a political question and should not become a political issue. The results of unbiased study, observation and investigation should also be considered to be higher authority than the statements of a party platform. It would also seem to be far better policy, if proper legislation is politically impossible, to have no attempt at reform. As a matter of fact, however, as we read the Baltimore platform, although it directly denounces the central bank idea and the so-called Aldrich plan of banking reform, the real intent is to prevent a control of banking and credit by sinister financial or corporate influences. A proper degree of centralization in our national banking system is not only compatible with this fundamental meaning of the Democratic platform but it would also be one of the greatest factors obtainable for eliminating from the national banking system the evils of which complaint is made in the platform.

## A GREAT CATTLE RAISING TERRITORY OF THE FUTURE.

The increasing shortage of the beef supply causes Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to predict that "a considerable portion of the future meat supply of the country must come from the South." The situation is becoming better understood and more appreciated as time goes on. There are millions of acres of unused land in the Southern States that are peculiarly adapted to the production of cattle, and, in the opinion of the secretary, "there is no reason why not only the beef supply, but the supply of pork, for American markets should not be produced on the soils of the South."

The sole obstacle that hinders the South from progressing rapidly in the production of live stock for market is the cattle tick pest, and that is being gradually brought under control. Already 165,000 square miles of territory in the South have been released from the tick quarantine, and more territory is being added each month.

"Not only are there millions of acres of idle land that could be used profitably for the raising and pasturing of cattle," Secretary Wilson declares, "but there are millions of acres of the best cattle producing lands in the South, that are at present being used for other purposes, that should be turned into feeding ground for live stock." For instance, the same authority cites the 2,500,000 acres of Cecil clay in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, and the 1,500,000 acres of Hagerston loam found in Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Investigations made by the Bureau of Soils of the Federal Department of Agriculture demonstrate that these two types of soil are "particularly adapted to cattle production and the growth of the finest grasses and forage crops of any soils in the country."

## TURNING THE LIGHT ON THE MIDDLEMAN.

The middleman is receiving a good deal of unwelcome public attention nowadays. Commissions in Massachusetts and New York which have been inquiring into the causes of the high cost of living have reached the conclusion that the remedy is "devise ways and means for the producer to reach the consumer with the minimum cost of handling his product."

The Massachusetts investigators entertain no hope for the return of the days of cheap food. Among the causes of higher prices they enumerate the increased supply of gold, social and individual waste and the drift of population from the country to the cities. The tariff and trust they do not consider the "direct and active cause."

The New York commission finds that from 40 to 70 per cent of the consumer's dollar is eaten up by unnecessary handling. It recommends a State and a city department of markets, looking to the reduction of the army of retailers.

The fundamental conclusion reached by both commissions is that a better system of distribution is essential! Upon the great relative addition to cost in the stage between the producer and consumer must remedial efforts be concentrated.

On account of the money trust investigation we are hopeful that there must be some money in the world somewhere.

The dresses and hair styles in the "How They Looked Several Years Ago" pictures have a tendency to reconcile us to the fashions of to-day.

When the street car company builds waiting-rooms on Broad Street it should provide seats for the tired youths who now have to lean against the buildings.

There is one State issue upon which the State press is unanimous, and that is the abolition of prison contract labor.

"The brightest, clearest, longest sunbeams in the world shoot joy through every Alabama every day that comes. Weather like this will give us 1,000 carloads of violets within another month," exclaims the Montgomery Advertiser. O, bliss! and then they can shoot every carload to Richmond to send joy through the brightest, sweetest, beautifullest girls in the world.

Professor Boni has discovered that the Caesars had three elevators in their palace to carry the want-of-breath Emperors up from the Forum to the Palatine Hill. What we have read of the convivial habits of the Emperors takes us believe they needed three.

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

According to Uncle Abner. There ain't no use to argue with one of them old-fashioned fellers who hooks his necktie on with a rubber loop.

A blunt person is all right, of course, but as for me, I'd rather hear 'em palaver once in awhile. It sounds nice and don't do a feller any harm whether it is true or not.

Hot Pipers says there are a lot of fellers in our village who kin tell Secretary McVeigh how to run the United States treasury department, but can't pay their own grocery bills.

It don't matter which restaurant you go to in Hicksville you will wish you had gone to the other one.

There is no reason for any feller to be down and out. After everything else has failed he can get up an advertisement stunt.

A life is just one Ptomaine poisoning after another.

You don't see so many chronic invalids hangin' around any you used to. People are beginnin' to find out it ain't much use.

I don't care a dang who's President so long as the printers and oaks keep comin' up out'n the ground.

There is only one feller in our town who didn't predict that Wilson would be elected, and he has got paralysis of the vocal cords.

Pastmaster Tibbitts is gettin' ready to go back to work for a livin'.

There ain't nothing much to be done for the feller who believes in bad luck.

A feller kin wear tan shoes with a dress suit, but he has got to be a gent to get away with it.

Nothing else will cure a feller of the desire to go to the Legislature and he might as well run and get beat and have it over with.

There was never a time in the last forty years when somebody wasn't tryin' to bust the solid South.

There is always something old-fashioned about the feller who likes pie for breakfast.

Mr. and Mrs. Hank Tumma fear the worst. Their son Willie has expressed a desire to be a lawyer when he grows up.

A lot of fellers make a livin' without working but they don't have so much fun as they might, at that.

## Caught on the Fly.

Boston women suggest that unmarried men should wear a distinguishing button. Some of them are not able to keep any buttons on at all.

It seems as though Uncle Sam ought to find grounds upon which to fight the coffee trust.

A scientist now says permanent life is possible. He should make the six cats his approximate.

The trouble with the Manhattan and Bronx cocktails is that they didn't stay at home.

But it doesn't look as though even the most ardent suffragets will ever learn to step off the street car the right way.

Galveston is now connected with the rest of Texas by a causeway. Somebody has evidently stolen the causeway that connected Senator Joe Bailey with that State.

Honolulu reports an earthquake. The Japanese, for a wonder, are not suspected.

English couple will go on honeymoon in aeroplane. Let it be hoped they don't have a falling out.

One idea of no sort of job for a live man is to be a member of the faculty of the electoral college.

Personal. Penelope—You ask how to make yourself light on your feet. Climbing a tree and doing it every day will parallel bars is recommended, but care should be taken not to light on your head.

The kind of a package that you refer to cannot be sent through the new parcels post. Every man has got to sort of a package for himself.

From the Hicksville Clarion. Professor E. Pluribus Jenkins, the new superintendent of the Hicksville schools, will give a lecture on the new school of films at the school house next Thursday evening, showing the working of the human mind and the highest of living.

He will show the human stomach running on high speed and digesting breakfast and lunch in about ten seconds, digesting corned beef and cabbage. He will also show the effects of the new food and the new food offering will be taken and the professor will get enough to pay for printing the handbills if he is lucky. If the professor had lived in old midwest, he would have been taken by the neck and charged an admission at the door.

## Views of the Virginia Editors

The Abolition of Capital Punishment. The above is just now a burning question in Virginia, and due in great part to a sickly sentimentality on the part of the masses, such crimes ever committed in the history of the Commonwealth. One of the ardent advocates of the change, after delivering himself of his fancied unanswerable reasons, was quietly asked, what would you do with the fellow who had committed the crime and was quick, "Hang the feller as high as Haman."

And just then and there he tore his argument into shreds and scattered so-called reasons to the wind. And what he said in reply to a pointed query, "Hanging up from the south-poles of humanity at large."

Lynch law, never, but law merciful yet merciless, ever. The gates of the Cities of Refuge opened to those who unwittingly killed another, but shut fast against the murderer and malicious intent. The soul that sineth it shall die, was spoken by a God of infinite compassion and so long men flatter themselves that they are wiser than God given example he makes no mistake.

Remove the dread of death and you open the floodgates of crime. Would that the good had already overcome the evil, but the battle is still on, and while the battle is on, the law must be enforced on the field there are times when death alone will satisfy the demands of justice.—Farmville Herald.

Can "Trot" to "Turkey in the Straw." Ben Owen may not be able to beat the tom-toms for an Indian dance, but he can equal any hon-ton in a Virginia dance.—Blackstone Courier.

Admits Its Theft. Editing a weekly newspaper is a nice thing. If we publish jokes people say we are rattlebrained. If we don't we are foolish. If we publish original matter

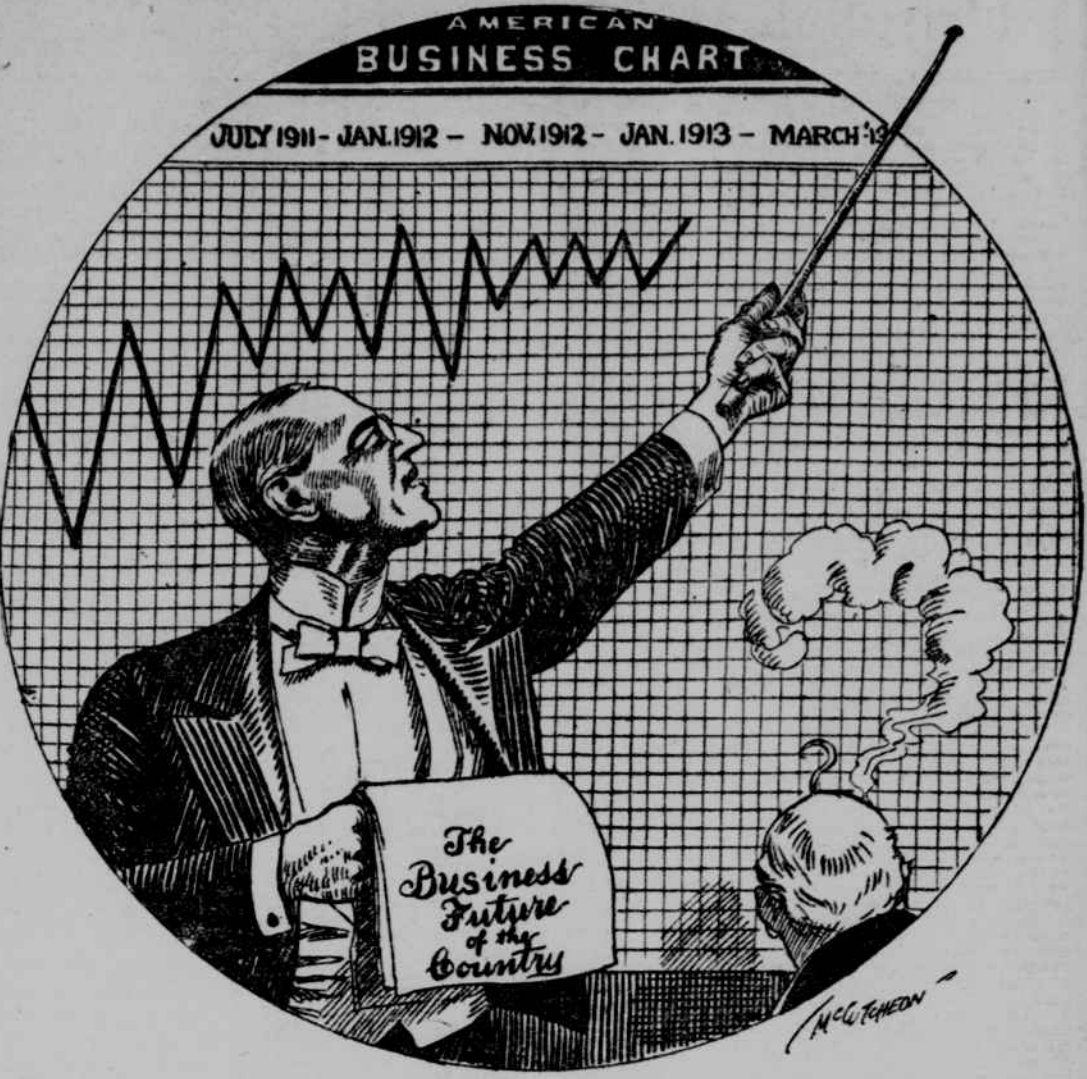
Abe Martin



# HE SHARE HIS HOPES.

By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1913, By John T. McCutcheon.)



They say we don't give them enough attention. If we give them selections they say we are too lazy to write. If we don't go to church we are heathens. If we do we are hypocrites. If we remain at the office we ought to be out looking for news items. If we go out, then we are not attending to business. If we are objects of charity. If we wear good clothes and drive a gasoline wagon they say we are a disgrace to the community. If we don't look as though even the most ardent suffragets will ever learn to step off the street car the right way.

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**THE WORLD AT LARGE**

Let Americans Pay Canal Tolls.

Senator Root has introduced a bill to repeal that part of the Panama Canal act which exempts American coastwise vessels from the payment of tolls. The sentiment is widespread that the honor of the nation demands such repeal, or, if not, the submission of the question to arbitration. There is almost literally no indication of public approval of the exemption, still less of an insistence upon it and refusal to have it passed upon by an impartial tribunal. But, so far as the feeling in the Senate is concerned, it seems that, if any step is to be taken toward the undoing of the toll-exemption blunder, a straight-out repeal would be more acceptable than arbitration. We doubt not that, if the sentiment of the country is brought adequately to the notice of Congress, the repeal will be effected. The exemption has been ear-marked both as a violation of the nation's plain promise and as the grant of a subsidy to an interest already completely screened from foreign competition.—New York Evening Post.

**The Truth About Hiv.**

To his Well-Beloved he had always been faithful, but she had had many embezzlements. Each individual known as Lucy, Jane, Flora, Evangeline, or what not, had been merely a transient condition of her. He did not recognize this as an excuse or a defense, but as a fact simply. Essentially she was perhaps of no tangible substance; a spirit, a dream, a frenzy, a conception, an aroma, an epitomized, a light of the eye, a parting of the lips. God only knew what she really was.—Hardy.

**No wonder Governor Wilson's**

speeches send a shiver through the stock exchange. Its business would shrink more than one-half if the pure gambling element in its daily transactions could be eliminated. Cut off what is known as margin trading and many a Wall Street operator would have to seek work elsewhere, or join the breadline. Possibly these things cannot be done, but reformers are studying the situation to see what can be done. And that seems ruinous, perhaps, to that tender plant, "confidence," which has its abode in and around the stock ticker.

**Governor Wilson has a work to do**

and some people are just waking up to the fact that he will not be deterred by hostile demonstrations on the tape. The country's advice to the stock exchange is to clean house of its own accord, before the vacuum cleaner of public regulation strikes it.—Springfield Republican.

**Woes of Tallest Women.**

Curvature of the spine is given as the cause of the death of Miss Ella Ewing, the world's tallest woman, and noted circus sideshow character, who died at the home of her father, a farmer living near Gorin, Scotland County, Mo., at the age of 40. Miss Ewing was eight feet four and one-half inches in height and would probably have been much taller had she not been afflicted with the disease which caused her death and which she contracted several years ago, before she had attained her full growth.

**Miss Ewing, who was thirty-seven**

years old, was perfectly normal until she began to grow until she reached her great height. It was while she was still growing that she injured her spine. From that time on she was slightly humpedbacked. During the last few weeks she had been confined to her bed.

**The inconvenience experienced by**

the countless in traveling over the country as a sideshow freak is thought to have had much to do with the hastening of her death. The beds were never long enough for her, and she had to put two of them together to get her needed sleep. She also had much trouble in entering and leaving rooms in the hotels and other places where she stopped, because of her height. This constant bending tended to further aggravate her disease.—Chicago Tribune.

**Warwithturkey.**

"Toss bulgur and balkan with the greek. Allrightly was the borderland. The great idea outpuck.

**'Beware the warwithturkey, my son.**

The plague that kills, the pain that hinders, the work, and the sleep, the peace, the turkey bird, and shun The Sultan's afterhacks.

**He took byzantium in hand.**

Long time the moslem foe he sought. So rested he by the musketeer. And mused awhile in thought.

**And as chatallia lines he'd ruse,**

And as chatallia lines he'd ruse, Scattered through the Bosphorus, And islamed for his life.

**One, two! One two! And right on**

through. Byzantium like brie-a-brac. He took byzantium in hand. And montenegro back.

**"And hast thou slain the warwithturkey?**

Come to my arms, my allyed four. Hellenic greece! Give me a piece!" Now austria doth roar.

**'Twas bulgur and the ferdinand**

Did serb and balkan with the greek. Allrightly was the borderland. The great idea outpuck.—Life.

**Voice of the People**

A Plea for the Revival of Virginia

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—Sir:—If we are to judge by most of the stuff now appearing in our local daily papers, Heaven save us! We are not within a thousand years of the renaissance of poetry in Virginia. To call it twaddle would be to honor it extravagantly. There is neither rhythm, rhyme nor reason in a line of it. All of the rules are violated, and the jingle jangles along into a

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